

11611

Letters from a Missionary Teaching
in Utah

"After living in Utah several months, I find the standard of morality is lower than I had expected. The Boys and girls are to be taught, not only the first ordinary branches of an education, but ^{they} need instruction in everything. The home training of most of them is very deficient, while some have had none at all. Although the school has been larger than at present, I think it is encouraging that in a Mormon community like this, we have enrolled twenty-eight scholars. The bright, tasteful, little chapel is an attractive place for them. There are a number of apostate Mormons here, and the avowed enemies of all religion; while they are anxious their children should have an education, they discountenance their coming to the Sabbath school. The attendance there is irregular, and not very encouraging. A very pleasant time here is the Wednesday evening song service, when the chapel is usually full, and the time is spent in singing the beautiful Gospel Hymns. Much good has been accomplished, but there is yet much to be done. To those who have been longer in the field the work may seem slow, but we have the earnest.

fearless preaching of God's word, Sabbath
 after Sabbath, and the people come and
 hear it, surely it will not be without
 power' L. G. H.

"We found the place for the school in a very
 bad condition, the roof was entirely off in
 many places, no floors in the back rooms,
 and all very dirty. We were obliged to burn
 brimstone in the front part of the house
 to destroy the bed bugs, they were the
 ugliest insects, ones we ever saw.
 Mr. C. was burning brimstone and
 whitewashing for the next few days; he
 then returned home to prepare for his
 Sabbath work, and left me to go on with
 the cleaning and scrubbing. On the
 following Tuesday he returned, and
 brought a load of shingles, and lumber,
 and a carpenter. After working two or
 three days we found that we would be
 made comfortable enough to begin school
 on the 16th. Accordingly we distributed our
 cards, and on the next Monday I had
 four scholars. After teaching a week
 the family where I taught near S. sent

six scholars, and then there came a young lady who attended my school last summer. Now I had eight boarders, and four day scholars, this continued until last Monday when we had a new scholar, making five from this place, and we understand that we will have more the next term. My boarders provide some of their provisions, and I find the rest. I like to have the young people in the house with me, for I am just a little bit afraid to be here alone. We have had as many as sixteen in S.S. but they do not come regularly, and I only report those who are here every Sabbath. We thought it best to make the first term free, but one man brought a load of coal, and told me that it would go on the next "quarter's schooling".

There is much to encourage us - the young folks like to come to S.S. and I believe will come after a while in spite of the priests and bishops. There is an old bishop who lives across the street from us, and it is amusing to see him try to drive the boys away from our gate on Sunday mornings lest they come into Presbyterian Sunday school. The priests visited the children

when they first started to our school, and tried to prevent from doing so, telling them that it was not safe for the girls to be here when the "old man" meaning Mr. C. was around. But it did not scare them a bit, the people here are getting more independent, and in time will be able to do as they please without asking their leaders. Mr. C. has very good congregations when he comes down to preach the last time he was here a good "Saint" had been drinking as he said in honor of a new saloon that had just opened, and had taken a little too much, was so drunk we were obliged to send for a policeman to put him out. We kept Thanksgiving Day. At 10 o'clock I tried to tell the young folks what it meant, read some portions of Scripture and the President's proclamation, and told them all I could about it.

A good woman, the mother of one of our scholars came to meet with us on that day. She said she was glad of the chance as it was the first time that ever Thanksgiving had been kept here since she came, and she had always been used to it in "the States". She told me that she had seen them hoist an old Indian blanket

on a pole, on the Fourth of July, and
mock at it as though it were a
United States flag - and these people
pretend to be loyal citizens.

In Scupper

Excerpts from letters of Utah teachers.
Copied by Mrs F. E. H. Haines
First Sec'y of Woman's Ex. Comtee

Beginning at the north, the Rev. E. M. Knox has charge of Malad and two other preaching stations. Mrs. E. M. Knox has charge of the school at Malad, which numbers 28 scholars, with a Sabbath school of 51. The next group of stations consists of Franklin—where Miss Anna Noble teaches the school of 46 scholars and conducts a Sabbath school of 52 boys and girls; Smithfield, where Miss Nellie Bartlett is bravely holding the fort and teaching 33 young Mormon children in day and Sabbath schools; and Logan, at

which point we have a growing church of about 20 members, and a school which requires the services of two teachers, Mrs. C. M. Parks and Mrs. Maggie Shirley. This group of one church and two mission stations, is under the ministerial charge of Rev. Calvin M. Parks.

His nearest neighbor is Rev. P. Bohlbeck, a Swedish minister, who has recently entered the field. His circuit consists of Millville—where Miss M. J. Hall has a school of 19 pupils and a Sabbath school of 23—Hyrum and Wellsville. Hyrum lies near to Millville; Miss Carrie Nutting is the teacher, and her school numbers 19 and the Sabbath school 18. Miss Kate Best has recently opened a school at Wellsville, the next town. Crossing a spur of the Wasatch mountains, we come to Brigham City, where the fearless Rev. S. L. Gillespie has been doing valiant service for the Master in the face of the most bitter and determined opposition, and where a school of 38 scholars has been gathered by his ceaseless efforts, seconded by the teacher, Miss Mary Christie. The Sabbath school numbers 82. Mr. Gillespie preaches also at Corinne, seven miles away.

Rev. J. F. Knowles has charge of our church at Ogden, which has grown to a membership of 40. Misses Ellis and Campbell have charge of the school, which now numbers 90 scholars, and is only kept from growing larger by the limited accommodations. Kaysville is also under Mr. Knowles' charge—where Miss Ella McDonald has just begun and gathered 8 scholars in the day school and 9 in the Sabbath school.

At Salt Lake City the church has reached a membership numbering 96. Rev. R. G. McNiece is the pastor. Here the well known Collegiate Institute continues to flourish under the able management of Prof. J. M. Coyner and his corps of assistants, five in number. The enrollment is 210; Sabbath school, about 150.

Passing south from Salt Lake City 35 miles, we reach the field where Rev. T. F. Day is holding two forts, viz: American Fork and Pleasant Grove. At the former place, a school of 75 is taught by Mrs. Ada Day and Miss Julia Ashley. The Sabbath school numbers 45. At the latter place, Miss Work has a day and Sabbath school.

Rev. G. W. Leonard lives at Springville, where he has gathered a church of about 15 members, and where the model school under the care of Miss E. Munger and Miss M. Voris numbers 89. The Sabbath school has 111 enrolled. Mr. Leonard preaches also at Spanish Fork, where Miss Lucy Perley is beginning to build up a school. Springville is 55 miles south of Salt Lake City.

Twelve miles further south is Payson, where for four years Mr. Leonard has sustained a work which now shows good and encouraging results. Rev. J. A. L. Smith is the minister in charge, and Miss Amelia Woodruff teaches the school, which numbers 45; Sabbath school, 39.

Twenty-five miles further south, Rev. C. M. Fraser resides and has charge of Nephi and several neighboring towns. The school at Nephi is taught by Miss Marcia A. Scovel. Enrollment, 30; Sabbath school, 37.

At Fillmore, the former capital of Utah, 165 miles south of Salt Lake City, Rev. W. A. Hough preaches to a growing congregation in the old State House. Misses McKean and Craig have a school of 40. The Sabbath school numbers about the same. Mr. Hough also has two outlying points, viz: Kanosh and Scipio.

At Parowan, 260 miles south of Salt Lake City, a school is taught by Mrs. W. C. Cort and Miss Grace Canning, which now numbers 38. The Sabbath school is an attractive feature of the work. At Cedar City, about 15 miles south of Parowan, Miss Eliza Hartford is working and praying under tremendous difficulties. Both these points are under the care of Rev. W. C. Cort.

At Silver Reef—a mining camp about 20 miles north of St. George—we have a church of about 12 members, and a working Sabbath school. Here

the school is supported by a public fund raised by taxation and tuition. As it is a *Gentile* town, no mission school is needed. Rev. E. N. Murphy has charge of the church, and preaches also at Toquerville, a Mormon town, where we have successfully opened a school under the instruction of Miss Fannie Burke. The school numbers 12, the Sabbath school 26.

Washington and St. George, "away down South in Dixie," 350 miles south of Salt Lake City, is the circuit of Rev. A. B. Cort. The school at Washington is taught by Miss Virginia Dickey, and numbers 13. Miss R. A. Stevenson teaches at St. George, and has gathered 13 scholars. This is our extreme southern point.

Crossing the mountains east, and returning north by another route, we find Rev. P. D. Stoops at Richfield, with three outlying stations, viz: Monroe, Marysvale and Salina. At Richfield, Miss J. A. Olmsted is the teacher, and the school numbers 27; the Sabbath school, 33. At Monroe, Miss P. H. Wheeler has been teaching, with the exception of a brief interval, four years, and has a school of 37, and a Sabbath school of 44.

Going 35 miles further north, we reach Gunnison, where Miss Crowell teaches a school of 26 and a Sabbath school of 34. This is part of the charge of Rev. G. W. Martin, who lives 15 miles further north at Manti, where we have a church of 16 members, and a school taught by Misses Galbraith and Leonard. Mr. Martin preaches regularly also at Ephraim, north of Manti. Our church at Ephraim numbers 13. The school is under Miss Rea's instruction. A Sabbath school also flourishes here. Ephraim is 15, and Manti 22 miles south of Mt. Pleasant.

The next and last circuit consists of a church and four mission schools, under the care of Rev. Wm. Willson. The church is at Mount Pleasant, with a membership of 42. The Sabbath school has an enrollment of 143. The day school numbers 100, and is taught by Misses Fishback, Stayers and Tubbs. The school at Spring City numbers 18, and the Sabbath school 32, and are under the management of Miss M. A. Young. At Moroni, Mrs. S. M. Sorenson teaches the day and Sabbath school, where about 18 pupils are being educated. A school has been opened at Fairview, 6 miles south of Mt. Pleasant, taught by Miss Sorensen, an efficient graduate from the Mt. Pleasant school. She has 10 pupils.

D. J. McMillan,

Sept. Presbyterian Missions.